5.	गुजरात	11609
6.	हरियाणा	3018
7.	हिमाचल प्रदेश	543
8.	जम्मू एवं कश्मीर	532
9.	कर्नाटक	8281
10.	केरल	8856
11.	मध्य प्रदेश	9302
12.	महाराष्ट्र	13214
13.	उत्तर-पूर्व	633
14.	उड़ीसा	2589
15.	पंजाब	10169
16.	राजस्थान	7338
17.	तमिलनाडु	7426
18.	उ०प्र० (पूर्वी)	7371
19.	उ०प्र० (पश्चिमी)	6371
20.	पश्चिम बंगाल	1617
21.	मुंबई	7172
22.	कलकत्ता	5485
23.	दिल्ली	5902
24.	चेन्नई	3779

Losses to NTC

528. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total accumulated loss of NTC mills so far;

(b) the main reasons for such losses;

(c) the fresh measures have been taken to off set the losses; and

(d) the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R. L. JALAPPA): (a) The accumulated loss incurred by NTC mills as on 31.3.96 is Rs. 4682 crores. (provisional)

(b) The NTC has been incurring losses mainly due to obsolete machinery, excess manpower, low productivity, lack of working capital etc.

(c) and (d) The Government have placed before the BIFR a modernisation plan for NTC mills, involving, modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores restructing 36 unviable mills into 18 viable mills etc. Pending the approval of package by the BIFR, Government is meeting the shortfall faced by NTC in payment of wages / salaries to avoid any hardship to the workers.

Telephone Connections for Mini Telephone Exchanges in Rural Areas

529. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections required for Mini Telephone Exchanges in rural areas; and

(b) whether Government propose to open a Mini Telephone Exchange in Narsapet village areas of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) As per the policy of the Department, a mini telephone exchange in rural areas is planned to be opened at a place when the registered paid demand reaches 10 or more.

(b) No, Sir, as no registered paid demand exists at Narsapet village of Andhra Pradesh.

Improvement in Postal Services

530. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to improve the postal services in every State;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that regard in Orissa during 8th Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of the programme drawn up in that regard in 9th Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Department of Post

has been implementing the Plan Scheme for Upgradation of Technology through the successive Annual Plans under the 8th Five Year Plan in all Postal Circles in the country including Orissa Postal Circle.

A programme for upgrading counter services to provide more responsive and efficient customer service through introduction of computer-based counter machines is being implemented under the 8th Five Year Plan and 85 such machines have so far been installed in postal counters in Orissa Circle. Another six machines are in operation in the Local Area Networks set up in Ashok Nagar Sub Post Office in Bhubaneswar and College Square Sub Post Office in Cuttack in Orissa Circle under the programme for computerisation of Savings Bank work.

A programme for front office modernisation, centered around counter machines has been implemented in 9 Post Offices in Orissa Circle upto 31.3.1996. These Post Offices are :—

(1) Ashok Nagar SO
(2) College Square S.O.
(3) Bhubaneswar GPO
(4) Chandni Chowk HO
(5) Gopalpur SO
(6) Berhampur HO
(7) Rourkela HO
(8) Sambalpur HO
(9) Cuttack GPO

A programme for computerisation of agreement work of Savings Bank binders has been successfully implemented in 11 post offices in Orissa Circle through computerisation of the Savings Bank Control Organisation. These post offices are:

(1) Balasore HO
(2) Puri HO
(3) Cuttack GP0
(4) Bhubaneswar GPO
(5) Chandni Chowk HO
(6) Berhampur HO
(7) Koraput HO
(8) Balangir HO
(9) Rourkela HO
(10) Bhadrak HO
(11) Sambalpur HO

A pilot scheme for more efficient and speedier transmission of money order through satellite channel has been implemented by setting up very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) at 3 sites—Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur, and Berhampur in Orissa Circle.

In the field of Mail Operations, improvement is a continuous process, which is ensured through detailed monitoring at different levels by way of, inspections/visits and control. Recently, as a part of the 10 Point Action Plan to improve Postal Services, mail arrangements in rural areas were extensively reiviewed. In Orissa, Cuttack and Bhubaneswar RMS Offices and Speed Post Business Centres have been modernised. The following premium services have also been introduced in the State (i) Hybrid Mail, (ii) Corporate Money Order and (iii) Express Parcel Service from metro centers to Bhubaneswar.

13 Departmental Sub Post Offices and 90 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices have been sanctioned in Orissa during the 8th Five Year Plan.

The 9th Five Year Plan scheme of the Department is yet to be finalised. However, thrust for modernisation of Postal Service through consolidation and extension of programmes initiated in the 8th Five Year Plan is envisaged in the 9th Five Year Plan and this will cover Orissa State also.

3

Capital Investment in the Textiles Industry

531. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of capital investment